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Contact: Rob Kovach, 608-266-3512 Robert.Kovach@legis.wisconsin.gov

STATE SENATOR FRANK LASEE SAYS HE WILL KILL AB 210 IN COMMITTEE

Madison, WI – State Senator Frank Lasee (R-De Pere) announced today that, as Chair of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Housing, he will take no action on AB 210. His inaction will effectively kill the bill. AB 210, which moved quickly through the Assembly, was assigned to Lasee's committee on October 19th and had a public hearing last week on October 25th.

The bill would bring Wisconsin into compliance with the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), commonly known as ObamaCare, without providing any reliable gains.

"After carefully evaluating AB 210, I am convinced that this bill poses a serious threat to Wisconsin's sovereignty under the 10th Amendment and to the healthcare freedoms of our citizens." Senator Lasee asserted. "AB 210 would also make the state complicit in sabotaging much of Wisconsin's insurance industry. I cannot in good conscience advance this bill another inch."

In addition to his own scrutiny of AB 210, Senator Lasee sought the insight of a number of national experts. The Goldwater, Heartland, and Cato Institutes all provided analysis of AB 210's language, as did the Citizens' Council for Health Freedom and others. The experts were unanimous that AB 210's language would embed ObamaCare into the Wisconsin State Statutes.

"If Wisconsin opens the door to ObamaCare, there will be no closing it," Senator Lasee stated. "A line must be drawn in order to protect Wisconsin's residents and industry against federal intrusion. I am drawing it."

Diane Cohen, senior attorney with the Goldwater Institute, observed that AB 210's enactment could prejudice the 26-state legal challenge to Obamacare, in which Wisconsin is a party. The U.S. Supreme Court will soon consider the case. "By entrenching Obamacare in Wisconsin state statutes, AB 210 would undercut the states' position that the Individual Mandate, along with the entire act, is unconstitutional and must be struck down," Cohen said. "The courts are, in fact, paying attention to whether the states in the case are moving ahead with implementing the act."

In order to provide to all Wisconsinites and others watching this issue with a full set of facts surrounding his decision to kill AB 210, Senator Lasee has written an Op-Ed piece at the Daily Caller. The piece is cross-posted at FrankLasee.com.

Any questions concerning this issue may be directed to Senator Lasee's office.